(10)

Newes from France.

OR

A relation of a maruellous and fearfull accident of a diſaſter, which happened at PARIS the ſeuenth day of March, this preſent yeare 1618. where by meanes of a terrible fire, all the *Pallace was burnt and conſumed.*

Together with a narration of the loſſe and ruine of many Tradeſmen, who had all their goods *conſumed by the ſaid fire.*

As alſo an Iniunction of the Court of Parliament concerning the reſtoring backe and deliuering of all bags of papers, Proceſſes, peeces and Records which were taken vp being caſt out of the Pallace during the ſaid fire.

Truly tranſlated according to the French Copie: and ſet forth by authoritie.

France [Appendix - History and Polatics - Miscellaneous.]
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LONDON,
Printed by *William Iones*, for *Nathaniell Browne*, and are to be ſolde, at the next ſhoppe to the great North *doore of ſaint* Paules *Church*. 1618.

NEWES FROM *France.*

Or a Relation of the maruelous *and fearfull accident of a diſaſter, which happened at Paris* the ſeuenth day of *March this preſent yeare.* 1618. *Where by* meanes of a terrible fire all the *Palace was burnt and conſumed.*

TOGETHER WITH A NARRATION of the loſſe and ruine of many tradeſmen *who had all their goods conſumed* by the ſaid fier.

AS ALSO AN INIVNCTION OF THE Court of Parliament concerning the *reſtoring and deliuering backe of all* bagges of papers &c.

WOrthie Reader, the Authour being curious to giue you to vnderſtand a matter prodigious and feaerfull, which is altogeather worthie of memorie, and remarked of many men of qualitie as well ſpirituall as temporall ſeeing an accident to happen in the beſt peece of the famous Citie of *Paris*, being a

place where true and vpright iuſtice ought without delay to be done, named the *Palace* of the Kinges of *France* and the moſt renowned in the world by Reaſon of a Chappell named the Holie, the which Almightie God hath preſerued from the gulfe of an horrible & vnquenchable fier, which deſcended from Heauen, about midnight in the forme and faſhion of a terrible great flaming ſtarre, being for the bignes one cubite in length and of one foote in breadth, the which conſuming fier did burne and waſte the full ſpace of a day and an halfe within the great Hall of the *Palace* of *Paris*, without being able to be ſtaied or quenched by any meanes, as ſhewinge that this fier would demonſtrate the Iuſtice of God and the anger and wrath of the moſte holie *Trinitie* declaring vnto ſinners that they ſhould be conuerted and haue God alwaies before their eyes without muſing and troublinge themſelues in heaping vp worldly goodes and tranſitorie riches, and leauing the meanes to come to the kingdome of God vnſought for. In ſuch ſort began the fier the ſeuenth day of *March*, about an howet after midnight that with the force thereof it burned and conſumed all the auncient Antiquities and Records of this Realme of *France* hauing made in one night a greater deluge and deſtruction, then a hundred men are able to reſtore and build vp in a yeare.

It is almoſt impoſſible for any man to haue e-

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uer ſeene a fire ſo vehement and cruell as that was. For twenty thouſand perſons could not with all their forces, nor by the force of water quench the great fury of theſe mercileſſe flames.

Firſt the Chappell where they did vſe to celebrate the Maſſe within the great Hall of the *Pallace* was vtterly conſumed, as likewiſe the Kings *Effigies* & *Statues* which were ſet of carued ſtõe were alſo vtterly conſumed. The Valte or Arch of the great Hall did flame in that mãner as if the ſtone thereof had bin of ſulpher or brimſtone, all the ſhoppes of tradeſmen aſwell at the entrie as within the Hall were wholie burnt and conſumed, in ſuch manner that the loſſe cauſed by this fier is the occaſion of the vtter ouerthrowe and vndoing of many poore tradeſmen who had all their meanes, and goodes within their ſhoppes

ſhoppes. Afterwards this fier caſt it ſelfe vpon the backward parts on the ſide towards the Riuer, and began to get in to the priſon of the *Conſergerie* & ſhewed its force in greate flames, by reaſon of the winde, as alſo in regard of the greate drynes of the woode, which was anciently ſeruing to the ſaide Priſon, ſo as that from four of the Clocke in the morning vntill eight of the Clocke, a man might ſee this fier flame a league off round about Paris, which continued conſuming more then twenty howers: during which time the forces of thouſands of people could not quench it neither by water, nor by any Arte or induſtry, nor could the labour of the poore Priſoners doe any good, who did indure very much paine aud toyle by occaſion of the fury of this fire. So as all the beſt part of the *Pallace* was burnt, except the Gallery of the Priſoners, which was ſaued aſwell by the tradeſmen which had ẽte reſt therein, as alſo by thoſe which came to helpe and ſuccour them: ſoe as at the laſt, there was ſuch good order taken, that by little and little they found the meanes to extinguiſh and ſtope the fier after an infinite loſſe, and very great trauell and paines of more then two thouſand perſons which laboured therein.

But God hath preſerued the Chappell called the Holy ſhewing to his people that he deſires to be honored and glorified.

We may well know that this fier ſignifieth

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vnto vs a beginning of the wrath of God and that he is angry againſt vs, for this fier puts vs in mind of the ende of the world, and ſhould ſtirre vs vp to the firme beliefe which we ought to haue in the ſpirituall merrcy of God, and to hold our ſelues alwayes ready to fight againſt the enimie of our ſoules, and to embrace the true God and Sauiour. And namely in this holie time of Lent we ought to reconcile our ſelues vnto God and to demande pardon and mercy of him for all our ſinnes, that thereby we may come to the hiretage which he hath purchaſed by his death and paſſion, beſeeching him to haue pitty vpon vs, and to preſerue vs henceforth from ſuch accidents.

The Arrest or Decree of the Court of Parliament of PARIS touching *the restoring of the papers and registers which were cast by during the said fier.*

THe Court vpon the complaint made thereunto, by the Attourney generall of the King touching the diuerting and casting aside of the bagges p, roces, papers, parchments and registers made in the Pallace during the time of the fier hath enioyned and doth enioyne, all persons of what qualitie estate and condition soeuer they be, which haue taken or caried away founde by accident or by what meanes soeuer there be come into their hands, any of the said bagges processe, peaces, titles, Regester minutes and other papers, that they doe speedyly and readily cary and put them into the hands of Maister Iohn Du Tillet Regester or Greffier

Greffier of the ſaid Court, or into the hands of his Deputy in his houſe ſituate in the ſtreet Debuſſi in this Citty of Paris, without retaining or keeping backe any of them by guile fraud or otherwiſe, vpon paine of exemplary punithment. Of which bagges, Regiſters papers, and letters, the ſaid Greffier or his Deputy ſhall keepe a Regeſter of the names, ſurnames and dwelling places of thoſe which ſhall ſo bring them, for which he ſhall giue them a full diſcharge, that afterwards the ſaid bagges and writtinges may be reſtored to the Pronotares Ciuill and Criminll, to whom the ſame ſhall belong.

Inhibiting and forbidding vpon the ſame paines all Tradeſmen, Apothecaryes, ſellers of paper, Cardmakers, Mercers, Groſers and any others to buy directly or indirectly either by themſelues or meanes of any other perſons any Parchments, Papers, written in minute, or in bundles, nor to imploy them about their packetts and trade: but if any ſhall be brought and offered vnto them, they are enioyned to retaine them, and ſhew them to the Juſtices: to the end none may pretende cauſe of ignorance this preſent Arreſt and Decree ſhall be read and publiſhed aſwell by the ſound of the Trumpet and the publicke cry, as alſo by the Prieſts of the Churches of the Parithes in the time

of seruice, and it is ordained that the Attourney generall of the King shall haue a Commission to informe himselfe of the retention and concealment, and permitteth him to giue monition and warning that notice and reuelation may be the better had. Giuen in the Parlament the eight day of March 1618.

Signed Voysin.